

There's No Place Like Home

A Marine Gets His Wish to Visit Family in PA

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WISH #45

San Diego, CA

LCPL Devin Maconeghy and his wife, Crystal, along with their 16-month-old son, Devin Jr., live on Camp Pendleton in California, where Devin serves in the CLB 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU). Devin is an engineer and enjoys his work as a heavy equipment operator. After just 2 years of service, Devin plans to make a career in the Marine Corps.

Devin just returned from a month and a half deployment to Bahrain. Since then, he has gone in the field twice in three weeks. Often, he is in the field for a month, home for a week, and then gone again. Devin will be going on his first deployment in February 2011 as part of a MEU (Marine Expeditionary Unit). His deployment could last anywhere from 6 months to 2 years – just one of the unknowns military families face on a daily basis.

When Devin Sr. is home, the family spends as much time together that they can, often going to the pool or one of the many beaches in sunny San Diego. Sundays are family day for the Maconeghy's. The men (Devin Sr & Devin Jr) get haircuts, and spend the day together. In the summer, they go to Sea World and Knotts Berry Farm, which Devin Jr. really seems to enjoy.

The Maconeghy's are from Pennsylvania, They usually go home once a year around Christmas, if Devin gets his leave approved. Money is tight because of Devin's rank and pay grade, and Crystal recently graduated college and has yet to find a job in her profession. Because Devin is deploying in February, he will most likely be on a field operation this Christmas, and therefore will be unable to go home to Pennsylvania.

A neighbor told Crystal about *Phoenix Wish For Our Heroes*, and Crystal immediately contacted us because she felt Devin could really use a break. He misses his family in Pennsylvania, so she requested a trip home to for their family of 3.

Phoenix Wish For Our Heroes granted their wish *and* was able to provide round-trip plane tickets and a rental car for the family's trip. The trip allowed them to visit family this summer (instead of December), and meet 2 new additions to their extended family.

Devin and Crystal, we at *Phoenix Wish For Our Heroes* greatly appreciate what you are sacrificing in your service to our country. We are so happy to be able to make this wish come true for you.

Crystal Maconeghy commented, "We had a great time and we appreciate everything your foundation did for us."

